

SCIENCE FOR SOCIETY: LINKING MARINE AND CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH WITH POLICY

Sybille van den Hove

Median, Carrer Vista Alegre, 20, 08197 Valldoreix, Spain
E-mail: sybille@median-web.eu

Because of their potential serious impacts on ecosystems, societies and economies, climate change in the marine environment and ocean acidification have to be taken into account in, and across, a whole array of policy fields: environment, climate, energy, tourism, fisheries, infrastructures, transport, industry, ...

High quality research is necessary to support decision making in all these fields, yet it is not sufficient. There is a need for well-functioning interfaces between science and policy which allow for two-way flows of knowledge between the research and the policy worlds.

As an introduction to the afternoon workshop discussions, this presentation will address the strategic importance of marine ecosystems and climate change research for Europe. It will then explore why and how to interface this research with policy processes. Roles and responsibilities of different actors will be discussed.

Interfaces between science and society are equally crucial, as will be discussed by Mr. Cooper in the other introductory presentation.